

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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Mayor Healy to Name Council President Mariano Vega, Jr. as City's Soccer Ambassador Members of the New Jersey Ironmen to Attend Soccer Tournament

JERSEY CITY -- Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, members of the Municipal Council, and the Jersey City Recreation Department will be joined by members of the New Jersey Ironmen as the city hosts an indoor Soccer Tournament from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday February 21, 2009 at PS# 28, the Christa McAuliffe School, at 167 Hancock Avenue.

Parents, children, and volunteers will have the privilege of witnessing and being a part of Mariano Vega's appointment as the Jersey City Soccer Ambassador. Following the ceremony, the Jersey City Recreation Department Soccer Organization will have a soccer tournament for participants ranging from five to 15 years of age. More than 150 Jersey City soccer fans are expected to attend.

Members of the New Jersey Ironmen Indoor professional players (David Topolski, Randi Patterson, Ray Martinez and Goran Vasic) will be in attendance to help coach and to provide instructional tips to the children.

"This is a great moment as we embrace the game of fútbol and name Marino Vega, who has been supporting and advocating the growth of the soccer community for close to two decades, as Soccer Ambassador," said **Mayor Healy**. "I am also grateful that we are surrounded by the New Jersey Ironmen. They provide a positive outlet for kids and show them how their skills can progress with practice and determination."

The Recreation Department runs one soccer league for children – the Jersey City Recreation Department Soccer Organization – and subsidizes two other children's leagues, the Hans Soliz Soccer League and the Jersey City Soccer Association. In total, there are approximately 1,000 participants.

All media inquires should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.

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